



News Release

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SBA Seeks Nominations for Small Business Person and Champions of the Year 2006

Hartford, CT – The Connecticut District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration is seeking nominations for Connecticut's 2006 *Small Business Person of the Year*. The state winner will go on to compete for the country's most prestigious small business award – *National Small Business Person of the Year*.

For this award the SBA is in search of companies that have demonstrated growth, success, job creation and/or retention and community involvement. The winner will be honored at a ceremony in Connecticut next spring and as well as at a ceremony in Washington, DC, during National Small Business Week at a time yet to be determined by President Bush.

To honor those advocates in the Connecticut small business community the SBA is also looking for nominations in the following categories: *Small Business Journalist of the Year*; *Financial Services Champion*; *Minority Small Business Champion*; *Veteran Small Business Champion*; *Home-Based Business Champion*; and *Women in Business Champion*. There are also three additional business categories: *Family-Owned Small Business of the Year*; *Young Entrepreneur of the Year*; and *Small Business Exporter of the Year*.

The deadline for nominations is November 4, 2005. Nominations should be submitted to the U.S. Small Business Administration, 330 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06106-1800, ATTN: Debra C. Dillon. Nomination criteria, guidelines and forms can be accessed at www.sba.gov/nominationsguideline.html. Questions should be directed to Greta Johansson at (860) 240-4672 or greta.johansson@sba.gov or Debra Dillon (860) 240-4654 or debra.dillon@sba.gov.